

Commanders	2	FMWR	19
News	3-11	Police	20
Feature	8-9	Health	22
Year of the NCO	12	Sports	25
Community	14-15	Chapel	23
Army News	18	Legal	26



Ceramic tribute to comrades

page 8

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Home improvements

Barracks undergo \$1 million worth of renovations, upgrades

Susanne Kappler
Leader Staff

While most Soldiers enjoyed time off during Block Leave, construction crews took advantage of the vacated buildings and completed \$1 million of renovations to almost every Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training barracks.

The renovation focused on removing mold, replacing broken fixtures, updating the plumbing and painting walls and ceilings in the latrines and laundry rooms.

"Mold in the barracks does not present a clean, healthy environment, so the work in the barracks was very much needed," said Garrison Command Sgt. Major Lewis Kellam, who jump-started the project. "(The renovations) put the Soldiers in an environment that we want them to see and more so let them know that we care about them and we're going to take care of the fa-

cilities that they live in."

Work began Dec. 19 and was completed before the Soldiers returned from Block Leave Jan. 2.

"We were looking for a contractor who was going to work 24/7," Kellam said. We knew that we had a short time to get this done and there was a lot of work that needed to be done."

Precise planning was required to be able to complete the project within the given timeframe.

"It was a big team effort from everybody (involved)," said Don Richardson, who oversaw the renovations as an engineering technician with the Directorate of Public Works. "If everybody hadn't put that extra commitment into it, it wouldn't have worked."

Despite the logistical challenges, the project was completed without a glitch.

"It went great," Kellam said. "I've received great remarks from the Soldiers as well as the chain of command about the improvements made in those barracks."

The renovations did not only address immediate problems, but also helped planners to prepare for future barracks upgrade projects.

"It helped us learn we can get more done in a quicker timeframe," Richardson explained.

Now the focus shifts to maintaining the standard and making sure the barracks remain mold-free.

"The plan is to sustain those areas by getting the units involved to maintain their areas through housekeeping as well as some other initiatives from DPW to help the units fight mold," Kellam said.

Susanne.Kappler1@us.army.mil

Final tune-up for BCT Soldiers

Photo by Daniel Terrill

Soldiers from Company D, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment administer "first aid" during Victory Forge at the Military Operations on Urban Terrain site Tuesday. During the exercise, Soldiers with simulated wounds had to be evacuated from the "combat zone" to a designated area. Victory Forge is the week-long training exercise that culminates Basic Combat Training. The Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Reg. are scheduled to graduate Feb. 6.



COMMANDERS' CORNER

From the Commanding General

Army Prep School works for Soldiers, Army, nation

When the Army Prep School opened its doors some five months back, there were some skeptics and doubters who wondered whether the Army was lowering its standards in recruiting. That was never the case. That much, I can assure you. In fact, it has been quite the opposite.

Let's allow some of the numbers speak for themselves and dispel any doubts.

Let's start with the impressive 99 percent success rate. The Army Prep School — which enables Soldiers to earn a GED before entering into Basic Combat Training — has graduated more than 700 Soldiers since this past fall. But the good news doesn't end there.

Early indications are that APS graduates are continuing to accelerate. For example, 14 Army Prep School grads were sent to the same company to allow for a comparison with other BCT Soldiers. The results were astonishing. The APS Soldiers scored higher in Basic Rifle Marksmanship with 13 of 14 of them — or 93 percent — qualifying on their first try. Company-wide the percentage was 70.



Brig. Gen. May

In the physical fitness category, 12 of the 14 equaled the Army standard on their first PT test with an average Army Physical Fitness Test score of 245. Meanwhile, the company's average score was 230.

Of course, this early data is insufficient for drawing any concrete conclusions. Only through the course of time will the statistics become significant indicators. That's why the Army has decided to track the progress of its graduates long-term — all the way through their first reenlistments.

In time, the stats should indicate how quickly Soldiers graduate from the program, the awards they receive, their APFT and BRM scores, and any type of disciplinary action in which they might have been involved. For right now, I can say the signs are certainly promising, especially when one considers that for some of the students, successful completion of the Army Prep School program is probably the greatest accomplishment of their lives.

Their feeling of accomplishment goes far beyond my ability to describe it. But I will share with you what some of the graduates are saying, if that helps:

— “Thank you much for helping me accomplish this milestone. You have given me a chance to provide for my family. Thank you all.”

— “I don't know where I would have ended up if it wasn't for the sergeants and the instructors helping me get through the GED.”

— “I thank anyone who had anything to do with this program because it's helping me and my fellow comrades turn our lives around.”

Pay particular attention to that last comment, because it epitomizes the sense of opportunity the program afforded these young men and women, many of whom who have battled tremendous amounts of adversity and hardships in their lives just to get to this point.

The program has given its graduates an extreme sense of accomplishment and feeling of pride, all of which allows them to realize that their past is a lesson learned and that they are squarely on a path to success with the tools to thwart anyone or anything that attempts to derail them.

The school's commander, who has been doing a great job of overseeing the program here on post, probably sums it up best: “This is not just great for the Army. This is great for the Soldiers. We're changing lives here. I think this is great for our country.”

I could not agree more.

Army Strong!

Ask the Garrison Commander

Andy's Fitness Center membership; military ID cards

Q Is there still a membership fee for Andy's Fitness Center?

A There is no membership fee for the use of the fitness center, but there is a membership fee if you have plans to do aerobics.

The membership fees are as follows: Daily \$4, Monthly \$20, Quarterly \$51.00, and Annually \$180.



Col. Dixon

These fees are for individual memberships.

Memberships are paid at the front desk of the Solomon Center. You must present your military or Army civilian ID card. You must have a receipt or red membership card before taking a class.

Q What instruction governs the issuance of the military Identification Card?

A The issuance of the military identification cards are governed by AFI 36-3026(i), Identification Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, Eligible Family Members and other Eligible Personnel.

Garrison Fact of the Week

About Andy's: Andy's Fitness Center in coordination with Child and Youth Services now offers Jumping Jacks Child Care. Now open in the Marion Room at the Solomon

Center, child care will be offered while you work out. Hours of operation: Monday and Wednesday 9 - 11 a.m., 3:45 - 7:45 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. - noon.

Child care services and scheduled fitness activities for school age, middle school and high school youth. For more information on registration and eligibility, call CYS Central Enrollment, 751-4865

To submit questions to “Ask the Garrison Commander,” call 751-5442, or e-mail Scott.Nahrwold@conus.army.mil.

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NEWS

New housing rules include breed restrictions

Crystal Lewis Brown
Leader Staff

Those considering a move on-post may realize that while the family is welcome, some of their furry friends are not.

The Department of the Army's revised pet policy for privatized housing, released earlier this month, prohibits several categories of "aggressive or potentially aggressive" dog breeds.

Those breeds include pit bulls (American Staffordshire Bull Terriers or English Staffordshire Bull Terriers), Rottweilers, Doberman pinschers, chows and wolf hybrids. Other dogs that "demonstrate a propensity for dominant or aggressive behavior" may also be prohibited.

Those already living in what is now Balfour Beatty Community privatized housing on Fort Jackson were already notified of the company's similar policy, which was instituted in August. The Army policy, said Karen Padgett, community

manager, simply provides a more consistent approach throughout Army housing.

"When somebody's moving from one installation to the next, the rules may be different," she said. "This way, with the Army doing a blanket policy, Soldiers have some continuity."

In addition to those dogs prohibited by Army policy, Balfour Beatty also restricts the Akita. The company's breed determinations are based on insurance restrictions, Padgett said. The policy also refers to dogs mixed with the prohibited breeds.

Despite the policy, Padgett said there is a chance some of the prohibited breeds still reside on post.

"When we took over on Aug. 1, anyone who was already a resident and had a dog under the restricted breeds were allowed to keep it under the grandfather clause," Padgett said.

Anyone who falls under the clause is identified by a sticker to let Balfour

Balfour Beatty housing policies

No trash of any kind may be put out prior to 7 p.m. the evening before the scheduled pick-up day.

Residents are held responsible for the care and maintenance of fenced yards. These yards will not be mowed or maintained by Balfour Beatty Communities.

American flags are permitted. All others must be approved by the RCI director and Balfour Beatty Communities.

A minimum of 30 calendar days written notice of lease termination must

be provided to the Community Management Office.

If a resident terminates a lease early for any unapproved exemption, the resident will be responsible for "break lease" fees equal to one month's rent.

This will be in addition to any other applicable fees at the time of final inspection.

For more information about Balfour Beatty Communities regulations, contact the Community Management Office at 738-8275.

Beatty and other residents know they are allowed to keep the pet.

According to the policy letter, exotic animals such as reptiles, rodents (excluding hamsters and guinea pigs), ferrets and

farm animals are also prohibited.

For more information about pet or other restrictions, contact Balfour Beatty at 738-8275.

Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil

Mayor Coble visits Fort Jackson



Photo by Susanne Kappler

Brig. Gen. Bradley May, Fort Jackson commanding general, talks to Columbia Mayor Bob Coble before Basic Combat Training graduation Friday at Hilton Field. In addition to graduation, the mayor visited training sites on post and had lunch at the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment dining facility.

Around Post

Fort Jackson Spouses' Club

The Fort Jackson Spouses' Club will meet at 11 a.m., Tuesday at the NCO Club. The meeting's topic is "Health and Nutrition" presented by a nutritionist from Moncrief Army Community Hospital.

The cost is \$12 per person. RSVP is required by today. For more information, call (803) 338-3882 or e-mail fjscreservations@yahoo.com.

Task Force Marshall Change of Command

Task Force Marshall will hold a Change of Command ceremony Wednesday at 10 a.m. at McCrady Training Center's PT field. Lt. Col. Thomas Clarke will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Randy Pauley. For information, call Capt. Willie Johnson at (803) 806-1162.

FCC Recruiting Providers

The Family Child Care Program is recruiting military spouses who live in government quarters, and certified off-post individuals to be Family Child Care providers.

The next FCC training will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 9-13, 3392 Magruder Ave. Applicants must apply by Friday. For additional information, call 751-6234/1293.

Black History Month celebration

The 165th Infantry Brigade is sponsoring the African American/Black History Month luncheon and celebration Feb. 11 from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Solomon Center.

This year's theme is, "The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas." Tickets cost \$9 per person and are available through your brigade Equal Opportunity advisers, unit EO leaders or by calling 751-4247.

Dollar-cost averaging explained

Azure Celestine-Brown
Financial Adviser

Given the market's recent volatility, it is natural for most investors to wonder when to invest. The answer is anytime, provided you do it on a systematic basis using a time-tested strategy — dollar-cost averaging. After all, it is not about timing the market; it is about time in the market. Dollar-cost averaging allows investors to build a portfolio and help protect against wild fluctuation while continuing to accumulate assets.

It involves making regular investments of consistent dollar amounts over an extended period. This can happen on a bi-weekly, monthly or quarterly basis. For example, if you have \$6,000 in cash, you could invest \$1,000 per month into a mutual fund. That helps to avoid putting all of the money to work if you are concerned about a temporary market downturn today. At the same time, you are still able to actively invest your money with the aim of achieving long term-goals.

A strategy for many markets

While dollar-cost averaging does not assure a profit or protect against a loss in declining markets, it is a strategy that can help cushion the impact of market volatility in a portfolio, and often work to your advantage even in circumstances when markets are in retreat.

Consider this example: An investor puts

\$1,000 per month to work in a mutual fund for six months. Timing appears bad because in subsequent months this fund goes down in value significantly before making up some of the lost ground at the end. For \$20 per share in the first months, he would have purchased 50 shares for a \$1,000 investment. In the ensuing months, the price fluctuated between \$15 and \$5 before rising to \$10. While the investment lost value, the investor benefited by buying more shares with each \$1,000 invested every month.

At the end of six months, the total investment of \$6,000 would have grown to a value of \$7,167, or a 19.5 percent gain for the period. This is despite the fact that the fund itself lost 50 percent of its value during that time.

Consistency is key

The reason dollar-cost averaging works so effectively in a situation like this is because the investor maintains a consistent investment strategy regardless of market conditions. If the share price goes up one month, then fewer shares are purchased. If the price goes down in a month, more shares are purchased.

In the example outlined above, the investor benefited because the average price paid for each share was relatively low throughout the period, around \$8.37 per share.

By maintaining a disciplined approach

through a challenging market, this investor not only realized positive returns, but he or she also is well positioned if the fund should recover its full value and continue to generate favorable returns going forward.

A possible solution in volatile times

When markets are fluctuating wildly, dollar-cost averaging is a method that can put volatility to work for you. It is critical to make a commitment to continuous investments, regardless of how much prices may fluctuate. Investors also need to determine whether they are in a position to make ongoing share purchases even through periods of market declines.

If you are using the Thrift Savings Plan or a 401(k) to make regular deferrals from your paycheck, you are already using the strategy of dollar-cost averaging.

While many have seen the value of their retirement accounts decline because of recent setbacks in the market, the benefits of dollar-cost averaging make a strong case for investors to remain confident about their long-term prospects.

If you have continued to invest every month, you are likely building up larger share purchases because of today's lower prices. While you may be disappointed in short-term results, consistently using dollar-cost averaging may allow you to see better returns over the long term if the markets go back up.

Information key to economic success

John Little
Certified Financial Planner

Every Soldier knows that good credit is linked to economic success.

If you have too many missed payments or defaulted loans, your applications for credit cards or other loans will be turned down consistently.

Not only is your credit affected, but your career could be at risk. Credit history is being used by more and more employers to screen job applicants, and it can be a determining factor in granting a security clearance.

You may not give too much thought to your credit report, but it is a critical source of information that is not just used to

determine if you qualify for a loan. Your credit report can also determine if you get an apartment, a rental a car, or even insurance.

If you have not had any problems obtaining credit, it is still important to review your credit report. Inaccurate information can cost you money in higher interest rates on loans and mortgages.

So how do you know if your credit report is accurate? The first step is to get a copy of your credit report from each of the three credit reporting agencies: Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax.

An easy way to access all three reports is to go to annual-creditreport.com. There will be

no charge for the reports if you have not received one within the past year, or if you have been denied credit because of adverse information on your report. You do not need to order your credit score, which costs money.

Examine the reports closely, line by line, and make sure to highlight any errors. Report the errors to the credit reporting agency involved using the guidelines.

If you have legitimate negative information on your report, you may be tempted to use a credit-repair company.

There is nothing a credit repair company can do for you that you cannot do for yourself. They cannot erase negative in-

formation on your credit report and they have no influence over the credit bureau, so save your money.

Repairing damaged credit is not a fast process. There are effective techniques available to rebuild your credit if you are patient. A financial counselor can advise you on how to get started. Be proactive—a clean credit report can help you advance in your career and save you money.

For more information on credit or to talk to a financial counselor about your credit or other financial concerns, contact the Army Community Services Financial Readiness Program at 751-5256 or via e-mail at Madelyn.Mercado@us.army.mil.

Customer Service Corner

This week's article focuses on Community FIRST issues surfaced by the community which recently have been completed. The issues pertain to AAFES and Moncrief Army Community Hospital, respectively:

Issue: Automotive repair facility hours

Scope: Currently the hours of the Auto Craft Shop and the Tire Service Shop do not accommodate permanent party Soldiers. The facilities that will be used by permanent party Soldiers should cater to the hours of those Soldiers. Changing the hours would benefit these shops as they would have more customers. This would also benefit the Soldiers because they would be able to use the services.

Recommendation: Extend the hours at the Auto Craft Shop and the Tire Service Center to accommodate permanent party Soldiers.

Response: FMWR operates the Auto Craft shop section of the automotive repair facility. The hours of operation are: Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 1-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The auto craft staff will assist patrons in all areas of auto maintenance and repairs to include, oil

changes, replacing brakes, changing tires, AC service, engine repairs and more. Currently, the hours for the Tire Service Center are under review based on customer traffic and will be adjusted accordingly.

Issue: Travel assistance for medical appointments

Scope: Assistance for traveling to Augusta for medical reasons is not available, even when it is required to go multiple times a month. Nor is there a shuttle in place to aid in the commute. In order to be reimbursed for driving the distance for appointments, the mileage has to be 100-plus miles each way and Augusta is only 86.7 miles.

Recommendation: Offer some type of assistance for travel if a patient has to go to Augusta for treatment. Offer a shuttle bus or van to commute patients to Augusta for treatment.

Response: Active duty service members are funded for travel by their unit. Other TRICARE Prime beneficiaries have the option to seek their care locally by TRICARE contract. Unfortunately, reimbursement for travel for other than active duty, as currently defined by policy, is limited to travel greater than 100 miles from your Primary Care

Manager and only if that is the closest specialist that can provide the service. Providing transportation for medical appointments is not within the scope of Moncrief Army Community Hospital's mission but family members are able to file a claim for reimbursement for their travel expenses.

A complete list of Community FIRST/AFAP issues and their status can be found on the Customer Management Services Web site: <http://www.jackson.army.mil/WellBeing/wellbeing.htm>. New issues may be submitted on the site as well, by clicking on "Submit an Issue or Recommendation" or on the Community FIRST/AFAP Logo. Whether it affects individuals and constituent groups here at the installation level or throughout the Army, feedback is important.

ICE APPRECIATION

The garrison congratulates Moncrief Army Community Hospital, specifically the laboratory; and orthopedics. They have achieved a 4.82 and a 4.63 percent rating, respectively, in employee/staff attitude out of a possible 5.0 over a 12-week period. This is an outstanding performance in customer satisfaction. Keep up the good work.

A tip of the campaign hat to this week's ... Drill Sergeants of the Cycle



Sgt. 1st Class Brian Tuckwood
Company A,
2nd Battalion,
39th Infantry
Regiment



Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Dudley
Company B,
2nd Battalion,
39th Infantry
Regiment



Sgt. 1st Class Yancy Windham
Company F,
2nd Battalion,
39th Infantry
Regiment



Staff Sgt. Kevin Wilson
Company D,
3rd Battalion,
13th Infantry
Regiment

Treat every weapon as if it is loaded.

Handle every weapon with care.

Identify the target before you fire.

Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot.

Keept the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire.

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FEATURE

Retiree designs mugs of fallen Soldiers

Mike A. Glasch
Leader Staff

While it was still dark out one morning in 2006, retired Sgt. 1st Class Joel Mitchell couldn't sleep. He got out of bed and started sketching designs that would eventually become his trademark.

"I'm not really an artist," said the 21-year veteran of the medical field. "My wife was a little surprised. I never really drew anything before that day."

The design featured the Fallen Soldier's Cross (a symbolic replacement of a cross made up of the Soldier's rifle with an attached bayonet stuck into the ground, helmet on top, dog tags hanging from the rifle and the boots of the fallen Soldier next to it). Mitchell put the design over the backdrop of a photo of the summer solstice in Alaska.

Mitchell said he was inspired to start drawing by a friend who had recently retired from the Army after returning from Iraq.

"We tend to forget about Soldiers once they retire," Mitchell said. "So I took the design and added the 'What about me?' tag line to honor them."

Once he was happy with his design, Mitchell sent it to an artist friend in England who helped fill in the fine details. He then started having the design printed onto coffee mugs.

"It pretty much just took off from there," he said. "One of the largest cup manufacturers liked the design and started producing them. I never dreamed it would take off so well."

He has since created several designs to honor Soldiers. Mitchell said his favorite design is one entitled, "The Sacrifice." It incorporates the cross on Calvary and the Fallen Soldier's Cross.



Photo by Mike A. Glasch

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Joel Mitchell arranges coffee mugs he designed to honor Soldiers and their sacrifices.

"I used the cross and the Soldier's cross because sometimes we fail to remember our spiritual roots," he said. "The two crosses represent the sacrifices made for us by Christ and by those who serve."

When two Fort Jackson Basic Combat Training Soldiers passed away in November, Mitchell said he felt compelled to create mugs for their families. He took "The Sacrifice" design and added the fallen Soldier's name to

each. He then gave them to the Soldier's battalion to be passed on to the families.

"I made my mind up, that any Soldier I am aware of who passes, I'm going to present a cup to their family," Mitchell said. "I never heard back from the families, and I didn't expect to. It was just something that made me feel good when I did it. It gives me peace of mind"

Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil

FEATURE

Principal heeds call, becomes officer

Daniel Terrill
Leader Staff

More than half a million teachers quit the school system across the country every year, many of whom leave for a less stressful job. But for 2nd Lt. Jason Brewer, Company B, Training Support Battalion executive officer, teaching just wasn't challenging anymore.

The 34-year-old high school principal traded in his suit and tie for the Army combat uniform and a single gold bar, ending his 12-year career in public education for a start in the Army.

It was dream that started taking shape when he was a child.

"My father was in the Army, he did four tours in Vietnam," Brewer said. "So the warrior ethos was instilled in me and my family growing up."

But it was a dream he deferred. During his childhood Brewer always kept his first love, football, within reach while thoughts of the Army were sidelined.

Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, N.C. awarded him a scholarship to play football.

After graduating, he tried out for the pros but was cut. He then decided to refocus his athletic career, from playing to coaching.

He coached and taught at a high school in Miami, where he met his wife. They moved to Texas, to what he calls the "hotbed for football."

After two years of teaching and coaching he wanted a change. The Army got its hands on the ball.

He started Officer Candidate School in 2000, but while he was away, his mother suffered a stroke and his father had a heart attack in the same week. He opted out of the Army and went back into education because it offered more stability.

Time elapsed and he needed to be closer to his parents in Elizabethton, Tenn., so he accepted a position at Hickory High School in Hickory, N.C. Shortly after starting there, he was named interim principal.

He grew bored of the job and a career in the Army



Photo by Daniel Terrill

2nd Lt. Jason Brewer works as executive officer for Company B, Training Support Battalion. He ended a 12-year career in public education to fulfill his childhood dream of becoming a Soldier.

began calling to him, he said.

He said he had a long discussion with his wife, who told him, "You got a career, you're getting older ... if this is what you want to do, go for it."

"She was behind me 100 percent."

He started Officer Candidate School in May. He said it proved challenging physically and mentally — physically because he competed against men much younger and mentally because he was used to giving orders instead of taking them.

"They've kept me working harder here than I did be-

fore."

Yet to Brewer, the Army and public education are not much different. They both rely heavily on leadership.

"The principal, to the assistant principals, to the teachers share the same tasks that noncommissioned officers or an officer has: maintaining the welfare of those students."

Brewer leaves for airborne training June 5 and reports to his permanent duty station in Anchorage, Alaska in mid July.

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NEWS

New vehicles used in anti-IED training

Crystal Lewis Brown
Leader Staff

At more than 8 feet tall and weighing more than 33,000 pounds, Fort Jackson's newest addition definitely leaves an impression.

But last week, approximately 20 Soldiers, Sailors and civilians faced the massive Iraqi Light Armored Vehicle as part of a training class aimed at protecting deployed military personnel against Improvised Explosive Devices.

For three days, the hand-picked military and civilian personnel learned the ins and outs of the vehicle during a "Train the Trainer" session.

Last week's training is the first time the ILAV has come to Fort Jackson, which is one of only a handful of military installations that has started training on it.

"Fort Jackson is one of the first to get them," said Navy Capt. James McGinley with McCrady Training Center's Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center. "We're getting 14 of these babies."

This is the largest number of ILAVs sent to any installation so far.

The ILAV is the Iraqi version of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, or MRAP, which is used to provide protection against IEDs. It was designed as a less expensive version of the MRAP that is made specifically for the Iraqi government, said McGinley.

Because the vehicle does not meet DoD standards in the amount of armor and explosive protection it provides, U.S. military personnel are allowed to use it for training purposes only.

It is the more affordable price that makes the ILAV a perfect substitution for stateside training, said Mike Trzeciak from Aberdeen Proving Ground. Trzeciak leads a team of four who travels the country to provide training on the vehicles.

"These people are the experts on these vehicles right now," McGinley said to the group, referring to Trzeciak's team. "You're going to become the experts."

To help in this training, the Joint IED Defeat Organization has provided funding that will send these and similar vehicles to military installations throughout the country. Though the vehicles are on Fort Jackson, they actually belong to the Navy. However, as part of its Home Station Training Lane, they are available to use to train Soldiers, as well as Sailors.

"These ILAVs are an integral part of the HSTL concept," said McGinley. "We're all working together here to try to train our Sailors and Soldiers against counter IED attacks."

Prior to the JIEDDO-funded training, MRAP operators did not receive specific training for the vehicles. This lack of training resulted in better safety against IED threats, but left untrained drivers more likely to have rollovers and other accidents.

"There have probably been more deaths in rollovers than IEDs, and that's why this training is so crucial," Trzeciak said.

Surprisingly, the easy drivability of the vehicle can also cause problems.

"It just seems like you jumped in your car and started driving, but it's not," Trzeciak said. "You have to remember it's a military vehicle."

The senior noncommissioned officers who attended last week's training received both classroom and hands-on instruction on the vehicles. They stocked the vehicle's storage areas with supplies, conducted preventive maintenance checks and even took the vehicles for a spin. Though attending the class meant having to work in during a rare Columbia snowfall and freezing temperatures, last week's class will play an integral part in the NCOs' training of young Soldiers and Sailors.

The purpose of the class, said Trzeciak, was to expose the future trainers to the positive and negatives of the ILAV to better teach those who will have to use it in war.

"This vehicle is designed to save a life, not to take a bomb hit and keep on moving," he said. "The point is, this vehicle is close to the real thing. The real ones have the same problems, but they save lives."

Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil



Photos by Crystal Lewis Brown
Above: Thomas Trombley, wheeled vehicle mechanic with the Directorate of Logistics and Engineering, unloads the trucks upon their arrival at Fort Jackson.

Left: The ILAV is used to train American troops against Improvised Explosive Devices.

Inspector general's role explained

Lt. Col. Marlon C. James
Inspector General

The Office of the Inspector General has as one of its four missions to teach and train. We intend to use articles such as this to pass along information gathered from issues, trends and observations brought to our attention.

Below is our first installment that discusses the role of an Inspector General. We look forward to presenting useful information to the Fort Jackson community in the coming weeks.

Inspector Generals (IGs) are the extension of the eyes, ears, and conscience of the commander. They provide an unbiased, continuing assessment of "climate" effectiveness. IGs work directly for and answer only to their commanding general.

The IG is an honest broker and a consummate fact finder, whose primary tools include teaching and training, inspecting, assisting, and investigating. IGs are never "off the record" and maintaining the confidence of members of the command, impartially toward issues being examined and the confidentiality of issues for all parties in an action are hallmarks of IG responsibilities.

IG missions are accomplished using inspections, investigations, assistance, and teaching and training. They are mostly systematic in nature and focus on finding problems, determining causes and looking for solutions. IG inspections more often focus on issues, not units. Command inspections check for compliance.

IG investigations are a more formal ex-

amination into allegations, reports of condition, or situations pertaining to a unit or individual. IG investigations are directed, in writing, by the commanding general.

Anyone can file an IG complaint or request IG assistance orally or in writing. Soldiers cannot be denied access to an IG. They do not have to go through their chain of command. They do not need permission to call or see an IG. They do need to use common sense, however, and not leave their place of duty without permission.

Soldiers will be encouraged to discuss their problems or grievances first with their commanders, as provided in AR 600-20. However, people who want to submit a complaint directly to an IG at any level, but who do not want to discuss the matter with their commanders or other members of the

chain of command, will be permitted to do so.

No retribution will be taken against a Soldier who submits an IG complaint. Anyone, however, who knowingly submits an untruthful statement to an IG can be charged and punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

People who ask the IG for help, make a complaint, give evidence, contact or assist an IG during an inspection or investigation or otherwise interact with an IG, have an assurance of confidentiality for their contact.

Detailed and assistant IGs are officers and senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs) who serve tours as full time IGs. These individuals are selected only after strict scrutiny and are school trained.

YEAR OF THE NCO



The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a non-commissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a non-commissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as “the backbone of the Army”. I am proud of the Corps of Non-commissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind — accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a non-commissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

NCO spotlight on ...

Rank, name

Sgt. Eddie Carr

Unit

Company C, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment

Job title / Military Occupational Specialty

Unit Supply Sergeant, 92Y Supply

Years in service

Eight years

Marital status

Single

Highest education

High School

Hobbies

“Play rugby.”

...

In his eight years in the Army, Sgt. Carr has deployed with the 212th Medical Army Surgical Hospital at the beginning of OIF. He has been stationed in Korea, Fort Benning, Ga. and Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

He said his most memorable experience is playing for the All-Army Rugby Team.

“It’s something tough that once you really grasp it, it really helps you in your leadership skills.”

When he was with the 212th MASH, Commander Maj. Sean Farley influenced him the most while coming



Photo by Daniel Terrill

Sgt. Eddie Carr works as a supply sergeant for Company C, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment.

up through the ranks. He said Farley really helped mold him into the Soldier he is today.

“If it weren’t for him I would have probably failed miserably.”

In the coming years Carr said he would like to change his Military Occupational Specialty to firefighting.

As for advice for junior enlisted, Carr said “Everyone messes up now and then. It’s how you adjust yourself after you mess up that makes you who you are.”

We salute you, Sgt. Carr!

NCO holds officer’s job for two commanders

Julia Simpkins

Leader Staff

Traditionally, commanding generals select junior commissioned officers as their aides-de-camp. Those junior officers are chosen from the best of their peer group, and given the arguably grueling job of making sure the general has what he or she needs to accomplish a variety of missions.

Fort Jackson’s Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Bradley W. May, has a non-commissioned officer as an aide. Sgt. 1st Class Sylvester Taylor, an administrative specialist, is a member of the Army Reserve who was ordered to active duty in 2004 to support Task Force Marshall.

In 2007, the Army was experiencing a shortage of junior commissioned officers and many positions they previously filled went vacant, including that of aide-de-camp at Fort Jackson.

“The commander here at the time was (Brigadier) General (James H.) Schwit-



Photo by Karen Soule

Sgt. 1st Class Sylvester Taylor serves as the commanding general’s aide, a rare honor for a noncommissioned officer.

ters and he said he’d be willing to take an NCO for the job,” said Taylor. “My senior leaders came to me and told me they thought I’d be great for the job.”

His former boss, Col. Robert Choppa, was commander of the 171st Infantry Brigade then.

“SFC Taylor was selected by the senior NCO and endorsed by me as he is fit, intelligent, mature, patient and professional. He had the right personality to fit in,” Choppa said.

When Schwitters relinquished command in July, May had the option of choosing his own aide-de-camp. Instead, he kept Taylor. Since then, the general said he’s been pleased with Taylor’s performance.

“He embodies all the characteristics we look for in our NCOs. It remains a privilege to serve with someone who is so dedicated to our profession and has such a passion for taking care of Soldiers. He has a very bright future,” May said.

A married father of two children, ages 6 and 5, Taylor said he accompanies May on Temporary Duty two or three days of any given week. He doesn’t have a set

schedule with days off. He’s on call 24 hours a day. He takes leave when the general does, and that is not often. In addition to working for the commanding general, Taylor’s job is to make sure the general’s wife is fully supported for any military functions she may have to host or attend.

While the general has a staff that makes up his schedule, Taylor’s job is to make sure everything is going the way it is supposed to — from airline tickets confirmation to departure times for the general’s driver. If someone needs to change a detail about a meeting or plans with the general, it is Taylor they call — sometimes in the middle of the night.

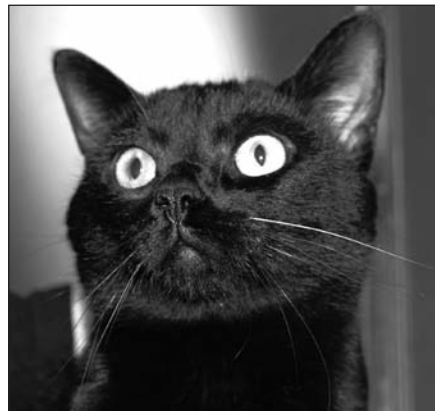
He takes it all in stride, refusing to take personal credit for securing a job he calls a blessing.

“This is a great job. It’s a wonderful opportunity to learn and to be mentored and to grow,” he said.

Julia.Simpkins@us.army.mil

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Need a friend? Or two?



Photos by Susanne Kappler

This 4-year-old black male cat, left, and 2-year-old female cocker spaniel need homes. The dog is spayed and microchipped. For information on pet adoption or other services, call the Veterinary Clinic at 751-7160.

This Week

vFRG, Spouse Battlemind Training

A virtual Family Readiness Group and Spouse Battlemind Training class is today at Dozier Hall. For more information or to register, call 751-5256/6325.

Teen Career Workshop

A Teen Career Exploration-Discover workshop is set for 1:30-3:30 p.m., Sunday in the Main Post Chapel activity room. For more information or to register, call 751-5452.

Managing Emotions

A Managing Emotions Under Stress class is set from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday at 5616 Hood Street, Room 10. For more information or to register, call 751-5256/6325.

sign up on the bulletin board. The format is Captain's Choice and the entry fee is \$10 per person.

Employment Readiness Program Orientation class

An Employment Readiness Program Orientation is set from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Wednesday at the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 223. Those seeking employment are encouraged to attend. Topics include job search tips, benefits of using employment agencies, the South Carolina Commission office and more. For more information, call 751-5452.

Newcomer's Orientation Brief

A Newcomer's Orientation Brief is set for 9-11:30 a.m., Wednesday at the Post Conference Room.

Levy Briefing

A Levy Briefing is set for 2:30-3:30 p.m., Wednesday at the Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213. Classes are open to everyone. Registration is free but required. To register, call 751-3580 or e-mail Kimberly.Bottima@conus.army.mil.

Announcements

New Safety Center Web Site

The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center has launched a new Web site, which can be found at <https://safety.army.mil>.

Financial Planning Help

Army Community Service has three certified financial planners available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday to help Soldiers, retirees and family members with free and confidential advice. To make an appointment, call 751-5256.

Early Hours for Car Care Center

The Fort Jackson Car Care Center will open at 7 a.m., instead of 8 a.m., beginning Monday for a 120-day trial period to help customers.

Community Outreach



Photo by Carrie David Ford

Sgt. 1st Class Kendrick Grimsley, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment drill sergeant, waits for participants of the Commanding General's Community Outreach tour to load the bus, Friday. Each month civilians are invited to tour Fort Jackson to get an understanding of Basic Combat Training. Participants can come as individuals or in groups up to 10. The next Community Outreach tour is on Feb. 20. For more information, call Veran Hill at (803) 751-1474.

FMWR Key Fobs

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is offering key fobs for patrons of FMWR exercise facilities for easier access.

Soul Line Dancing

A new Soul Line Dancing session is under way. The cost is \$4 per class or \$20 per month for a membership, which includes access to all aerobic classes. Dance classes are offered Tuesdays and Fridays. For more information or to register, call 751-4893/5317.

DOVE Connection

A DOVE Connection lunch and learn empowering women is set from noon to 1 p.m., the third Tuesday of each month at 5615 Hood St., Room 10.

For more information or to register, call 751-6303.

Housing Area Traffic Changes

Demolition and construction is currently taking place. Roads will be closed and redirected. Changes include:

Howie Village — Furman Smith Road at McLeod Court has been changed two-way traffic. On-street parking will not be

allowed from that point on. Overflow parking will be available in McLeod Court. Furman Smith Road off Lee Road will be redirected to Semmes Road and Knight Avenue.

Pierce Terrace 2 — Owens Road between Mills and Willett roads is closed, including Wells and Yarborough courts. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic is available off Willett and Chesnut roads.

Pierce Terrace 6 — Mills Road from Brown Avenue to Imboden Street is closed, including Batson and Boone courts. Also closed are buildings 5717, 5719, 5721, 5723, 5729 and 5751. Imboden Street is open for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Bradley Court and Building 5790 — This area is fenced off entirely. Brown Avenue open for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Family Child Care Web Site

The Family Child Care Web site, www.armyfcc.com, offers installation program information about FCC for the general public. Interested parents may visit CYSS Central Enrollment or the FCC office to request a password to view FCC provider profiles.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

National Image Inc. Award

Submissions for the National Image Inc. 2009 meritorious service award are being accepted until Friday. For information, contact the installation Equal Opportunity Office at 751-4916 or e-mail Janeen.Simmons@conus.army.mil.

DeCA Scholarship Applications

The Defense Commissary Agency is accepting applications for its 2009 Scholarships for Military Children Program. The deadline for applications is Feb. 18. Scholarship applications are available in commissaries or online at <https://www.commissaries.com> or <https://www.militaryscholar.org>.

EO Training Web Site

The Equal Opportunity Training Proponent has launched EO Net. EO Net provides one-stop shopping for EO information and training material.

The site is available for anyone with a valid AKO account.

For more information, visit <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/463396>.

Motorcycle Safety Training

To operate a motorcycle on Fort Jackson, Soldiers and civilians are required to take the Basic Rider Course. Soldiers also need to attend the training to ride a motorcycle off post.

The BRC is a two-day course offered weekly. The Safety Office also offers an optional Experienced Rider Course. All classes are free. Soldiers and civilian employees will not be charged pass or leave to attend. Training is available to retirees and family members on a space available basis. For more information, call 751-RIDE (7433).

Military OneSource

The Military OneSource call center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for military personnel and family members. Call (800) 342-9647 or visit www.militaryOneSource.com.

\$2K Referral Bonus Offered

Soldiers, U.S. Military Academy cadets, ROTC contracted cadets, members of the Future Soldier Training Program, Army retirees and Department of the Army civilians can earn \$2,000 for referring their acquaintances to Army and Army Reserve recruiters.

For more information, visit www.usarec.army.mil/support/bonus_program.htm.

Individual Resume Class

The Employment Readiness Program is offering Resume Writing for Beginners individual classes. Call 751-5452 for more information.

Post family housing landscaping schedule

Housing residents are reminded of the

weekly landscaping schedule:

Mondays — Pierce Terrace 1 and 2.
Tuesdays — Pierce Terrace 3 and 4;
Wednesdays — Pierce Terrace 5 and 6.
Thursdays — Howie Village and Pershing area.
Fridays — Pierce Terrace 7 and rain day make-up.

Residents should ensure the yard is clear of any obstacles that may prevent mowing, weeding and edging.

Family Housing refuse collection

Refuse collection is scheduled for regular trash pick up, recyclables and yard debris and bulk trash.

No trash of any kind may be put out before 7 p.m. the evening before scheduled pick-up day. The schedule for trash pick-up is as follows:

Mondays — Pierce Terrace 1,2,3 and 6.
Tuesdays — Pierce Terrace 4,5,7 and Howie Village.
Wednesdays — recyclables and yard debris;
Thursdays — bulk trash.
For more information, call 787-6416.

ChildFind Early Childhood Screenings

Parents who live on post and have concerns about their child's development regarding speaking, thinking, moving, social and emotional skills or daily living skills can schedule a ChildFind screening appointment for possible special education services. For more information or to schedule a screening, call 782-1772.

BGC Midlands — Before School and After School Care

Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands, through the Army School Age Programs in Your Neighborhood (ASPYN) initiative, offers care for children of Soldiers and authorized civilian employees who have early morning schedules.

This care begins at 5 a.m. at Killian Elementary School. Children will be transported to other schools by bus.

The cost of care is the same as before-school care on post and is based on total family income. After School Care enrollment is ongoing, and weekly fees range from \$12 to \$34, also based on total family income. Both programs are open to military and civilian employees.

For locations, times or more information, visit www.bgcmidlands.org or call 231-3300 or 751-6150. To register, call the Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands at 252-9578.

Fire Prevention — Test, Inspect

The Fire Prevention Office reminds family housing residents to test and inspect the smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector and stove top fire suppression system monthly.

To test the detectors, hold in the test button until the alarm sounds. To test the suppression system, verify the needle is in

Logistician of the Month



Photo by Mike A. Glasch

Sgt. 1st Class Paul Townsend, right, 157th Infantry Brigade, is congratulated Wednesday by Brigade Commander Col. Timothy Vuono on being named the brigade's Logistician of the Month.

the green, the pin is not in the extinguisher and there are no obstructions around the cables and the pulley.

If the alarm does not sound or if there is a problem, contact the housing maintenance office immediately at 787-6416 for replacement. For any questions, call 751-1610/5239.

Fire Alarm Warning

If occupants of a building notice a malfunction in the fire alarm system, it should be reported immediately by calling 751-4142/7217.

No one should work on a fire alarm system except authorized personnel. Tampering with a fire alarm system, a violation of Fort Jackson Regulation 420-90 and South Carolina law, is punishable under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. For more information, call 751-1610.

New Initiative for Transitioning Soldiers

A new service, ACAP Express, allows Soldiers to use the Internet to register for Army Career and Alumni Program services, schedule a wide range of classes and use online tools to create resumes and cover letters. Soldiers can use their AKO login to use <https://www.acapexpress.army.mil>.

After School Program in Your Neighborhood

The Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands has partnered with Army Child and Youth Services to bring quality programs to elementary schools in your neighborhood. Programs being offered are after-school care, summer camp and before-school care. For more information,

Gold Star Lapel Pin

Soldiers who have lost an immediate family member in combat are now authorized to wear the Gold Star lapel pin on the Army Green uniform.

Immediate family is defined as a spouse, mother, father, children or stepchildren.

Enlisted Soldiers wear the pin centered both vertically and horizontally on the left lapel of the uniform.

Officers wear the pin centered on the left lapel one-quarter inch below the branch insignia. For more information, refer to Army Regulation 670-1, paragraph 29-7.

APO/FPO Flat-Rate Box

The U.S. Postal Service will offer a military discount for Priority Mail large flat-rate boxes shipped to APO/FPO addresses. The boxes cost \$10.95 and can be ordered online. For more information, visit www.usps.com.

Spouse Overseas Employment

Individual appointments are available for Spouse Overseas Employment Orientation. For more information, call 751-5452.

ROCKS Meeting

The James Webster Smith Chapter of the ROCKS Inc. will hold its monthly meeting at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 19 at the Post Conference Room. All ROCKS and prospective ROCKS are invited to attend. Monthly ROCKS meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. For more information, call (803) 665-8260.

Upcoming

Reclamation Sale

The Fort Jackson reclamation sale will be held Monday through Feb. 6, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at building 2570 on Warehouse Road. Dates and categories are, Monday, E-1 through E-6, active duty or Reserve on active duty; Tuesday, training cadre only, including first sergeants, training NCOs and executive officers; Wednesday and Feb. 5, all active duty, all ranks; Feb. 6, active duty, Reservists and National Guardsmen; Feb. 6, 3-5 p.m., installation senior leadership only.

This is a cash-only sale and item quantities are limited.

Play Group

A Play Group will meet 10-11:45 a.m., Monday at 5616 Hood St. For more information call 751-4862

First Friday Golf

First Friday golf tournament is held Feb. 6 at 1 p.m. at the Wildcat Course. To sign up call the golf course at 787-4437 or

ARMY NEWS

Caution urged for peanut butter items

Samantha L. Quigley
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A long holiday weekend usually means a new flood of care packages to troops serving overseas, and traditionally those boxes include snack foods such as peanut butter crackers or candy.

In light of the growing salmonella outbreak linked to products containing peanut butter, service members are being urged to use caution should they receive these types of snacks.

“The ongoing commitment and efforts of citizens to remind the troops that America supports them is phenomenal,” a Defense Department community relations spokeswoman said. “Based on my knowledge of the nonprofit groups that send care packages, I’m sure they will be vigilant and

avoid shipping items that are being recalled.

“As an extra precaution, I would encourage service members to discard any peanut butter products that may have been shipped,” she added.

The Fort Jackson commissary has removed all the affected products, said Glenie Scott, commissary manager.

“All of the recalled peanut butter was discarded,” Scott said. “Whatever wasn’t disposed was returned to vendors.”

Officials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are suggesting that products produced since July 1 be avoided. To date, the outbreak has sickened about 500 people and caused six deaths since first being reported in early September, officials said.

The source has been traced to a Peanut

Corporation of America plant in Blakely, Ga. The company manufactures peanut butter and peanut paste that are distributed to food manufacturers for use in many commercially produced products including cakes, cookies, crackers, candies, cereal and ice cream, according to the Food and Drug Administration’s Web site. Its products reportedly are distributed to manufacturers in Canada, South Korea and Haiti, as well.

“In addition, FDA and CDC are advising consumers to postpone eating all foods that include peanut butter such as cookies, crackers, candy and ice cream until more definitive information and comprehensive recall lists are available,” Lola Russell, CDC spokeswoman, said. “Persons who think they may have become ill from eating peanut butter are advised to consult their

health care providers.”

Those infected typically experience diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection.

To lessen the possibility of infection, the CDC recommends people throw away recalled products in a manner that prevents others from eating them. These recalled products include Austin and Keebler brand peanut butter crackers and King Nut brand peanut butter produced since July 1. The company also sells peanut butter under the name Parnell’s Pride.

As a precaution for pet owners, some brands of pet treats that include peanut butter or paste also have been voluntarily recalled.

Editor’s Note: Fort Jackson Leader staff contributed to this article.

America’s Army 3 to introduce added realism, features

Lori Mezoff
Army News Service

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Six years after the U.S. Army revolutionized military action games with the launch of the free personal computer game America’s Army, the Army has announced the upcoming release of America’s Army 3.

America’s Army is the only free action game that delivers an authentic Army experience, officials said, by reflecting the training, technology, actions and career advancement of a Soldier within a unique exciting game experience.

AA3, which will be rated T for Teen by the Entertainment Software Rating Board, will be released later this year. As with previous versions of America’s Army, officials said AA3 will be constantly updated to include new features and missions and to highlight new technologies being incorporated in today’s Army.

Using the state-of-the-art Unreal Engine 3, America’s Army game developers brought the most popular trademark gameplay features from the previous versions to AA3. Highlights include authentic weapons and technologies, realistic training and exciting gameplay missions.

More detailed interaction

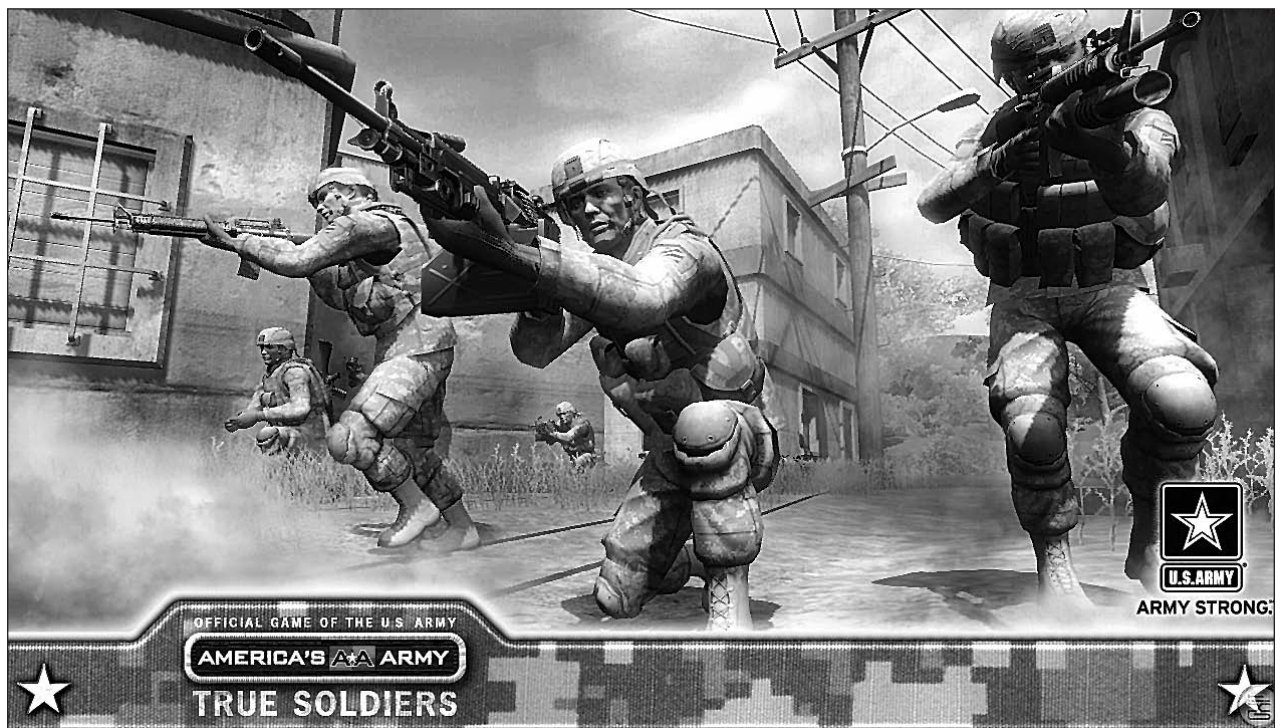
AA3 will provide players new insights into the Army and Soldiering while making the game easier to play, easier to install and easier to download, according to its producers.

“In AA3 we’ve taken all of the best features in AA2, incorporated feedback from the AA community and added the latest technology to develop a high-tech game that can be customized by the player to create a much more detailed interactive experience,” said Michael Bode, executive producer of the America’s Army game. “One of our key design philosophies is to make the game easily accessible to a new player, while at the same time keeping a deeper layer of complexity for the more advanced players to discover and take advantage of.”

AA3 highlights different aspects of the Army from Army Values and the Warrior Ethos to Army career opportunities and lifestyles both on and off duty. Through their in-game characters, AA3 players will be able to experience the way Soldiers train, live, and advance in the Army.

Values integral to ROE

Players are bound by Rules of Engagement, or ROE, and gain experience as they navigate challenges in team-based, multiplayer, force-on-force operations. In the game, as in the Army, accomplishing missions requires teamwork and



Screenshot by U.S. Army

America’s Army 3 will be released later this year featuring improvements on the previous versions of the game.

adherence to the seven Army Core Values. In the game, a player’s actions and demonstrated Army values will have consequences that are integral to success in gameplay and will affect a player’s career progression.

“With AA3, we’re taking military gaming to an all new level where every detail counts,” said Col. Casey Wardynski, originator and director of the America’s Army game project. “We want our America’s Army 3 players to have a greater understanding of the Army and its values. Our Soldiers are aspirational figures and our players are able to virtually experience many aspects of a Soldier’s life from their training, to their missions, to the way the Army has influenced their lives.”

New specialties coming

The first additional MOS players can explore is 68W Health Care Specialist (Combat Medic) which will be added this summer. Players who complete advanced individual training modules can take on new MOS roles that will affect gameplay. For example, by completing medic training, players will be able to treat minor and major injuries in single-player training missions and render advanced medical aid

in multi-player missions.

In subsequent game releases, players who complete Combat Engineer training will be able to assist in mission pre-planning, such as emplacing an obstacle to impede the mobility of enemy forces.

Training is a key element in the AA3 game just as it is in the Army, the game producers say. The game offers a variety of new training levels that will give players an advantage. After completing basic training, players can go to advanced training to increase their in-game skill level and progress in their Army career.

Success in the game earns players the privilege of taking specialized training. This specialized training allows players to unlock new abilities and gear, and to customize the gear they carry as well as their equipment loadout.

As players advance, they will be able to ‘cross-train’ on many different MOSs available in today’s Army. Such players will be highly sought after — according to the game producers — due to the capabilities they bring to multi-player missions. Additionally, as a new feature, players will have the ability to join online games with limited capabilities using the “instant action” feature.

Army Family Covenant Update

Respite care provides relief for EFMP caregivers

Theresa O'Hagan
Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Caring for a loved one with special physical, emotional or mental needs can put a strain on not only the caregiver, but other members of the family as well. Through the Exceptional Family Member Program and the Army Family Covenant, families enrolled in EFMP can now get up to 40 hours a month of respite care.

“Respite care funds are available to family members with special needs who are enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program and who meet specific medical criteria,” said Cheryl Jackson, director, EFMP. “The Soldier or spouse can contact Army Community Service EFMP staff for an assessment and obtain the enrollment and medical forms needed to apply.”

Respite Care provides temporary relief to both families and caregivers, allowing them to rest and relax; engage in other daily activities; cope with additional daily responsi-

bilities; and grow and stabilize the family unit. In addition, respite care services can be targeted to specific disabilities.

Respite care is available both on and off post and is able to provide care for a variety of needs.

EFMP is a mandatory enrollment program designed to inform the Department of the Army of family members with special needs. The program works with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated community support, housing, educational, medical and personnel services to families with special needs.


An Exception Family Member is any qualifying family member, child or adult, with any physical, emotional, developmental or intellectual disorder that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training or counseling.

Fort Jackson has approximately 1,200 family members with special needs. Army wide there are more than 100,000 family members enrolled in EFMP.

EFMP can assist Soldiers and Family Members with:

- Finding post and community special needs services, programs and activities (including summer camps).
- Training classes and workshops.
- Linking families with families with like special needs situations.
- Respite care.
- Information on Public Laws.
- EFMP Support Group and links to other support groups in the local community.
- Information and links to services at other installations.
- Assistance with policy exceptions for housing.
- Child find activities.
- Early intervention referrals.
- Service coordination for individualized education plans (IEP).

For more information on EFMP or Respite Care, call Army Community Service at 751-5256 or visit www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/efm or www.myarmylifetoo.com.



Today
Visit the **Officers' Club** for delicious specials or the buffet. Visit **Century Lanes** for food, fun and bowling.

Magraders Pub is open for lunch for family members noon to 4 p.m., Thursdays.

Dart season begins at Magraders Pub.

Friday
Artistic Expression with Jake begins 6:30 p.m. at the Youth Center Teen Room.

Dance to a variety of music provided by DJ Randall at **Magraders Club** from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. The club is located in the back of Magraders Pub, and the cover

charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians.

Every Friday is **Fish Fry Friday** at the Officers' Club, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch at the Officers' Club is open to everyone.

Saturday
Step Team practice begins 2 p.m. at the Youth Center Dance Room.

The NCO Club presents **Classic Soul Saturday** 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Excalibur Room. The cover charge is \$3 for military and \$5 for civilians. The event features live broadcasts from the BIG DM 101.3 with giveaways 9:30-11 p.m.

The **Officers' Club** is closed because of catered events.

Sunday
Come to **brunch** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers' Club. This Sunday, bring the children for a special children's buffet and craft activities.

Enjoy **Family Day at the Youth Cen-**

ter, 2-6 p.m.

Watch **High School Musical 3** for free, 3 p.m. at the MG Robert B. Solomon Center.

Watch the **Super Bowl** on large-screen TV and win prizes at Magraders Pub and Club or the NCO Club, starting 4 p.m.

Monday
The **NCO Club** presents a **full lunch buffet**, featuring fried chicken or fish, fresh vegetables, a full salad bar, soup, assorted desserts and a beverage from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., for \$7.

Tuesday
Movie Night begins 6 p.m. at the Youth Center in the Teen Room.

Enjoy **free movies** every Tuesday at Magraders Pub.

Wednesday
Be a sensation with **Karaoke with Tom Marable** at **Magraders Club** at 7:30 p.m. Cover charge is \$3 for military

and \$5 for civilians.

Visit the Officers' Club for a **Mongolian BBQ Lunch Buffet**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ongoing Offers

- Fort Jackson is in need of family child-care providers. The next **Family Child Care Orientation Training** will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 9-13 at the Joe E. Mann Center.
- Military spouses who are living in government quarters and DSS registered off-post child care providers may apply to become certified to provide child care to military families in their homes. Applications are required and are due by Friday. Call 751-6234/1293 for more information.
- The **NCO Club breakfast** is served 6-9 a.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.75 for children 4-10 years old.
- The **Officers' Club specializes in catering** wedding receptions, anniversaries, promotions and other special occasions.

FIRST RESPONDER



The following are incidents compiled from reports, complaints or information received from the Fort Jackson Provost Marshal Office.

The incidents reflected are not an adjudication attesting to the guilt or innocence of any person and are provided for informational and reflective purposes only.

Lt. Col. Ronald F. Taylor

Director, Emergency Services/Provost Marshal

Sgt. Maj. Allen Taylor Jr.

Provost Sergeant Major

Billy Forrester

Fire Chief

Cases of the Week

Military Police responded to a fight between two Soldiers in Basic Combat Training barracks. The Soldiers were involved in shouting that escalated when one Soldier head-butted the other, MPs said.

The incident is being reviewed by the unit commander.

During a command-directed search at an Advanced Individual Training barracks, cadre found marijuana in a Soldier's wall locker. Military Police were called, and the Soldier was charged with simple possession.

Several power tools were reported stolen

at Building 11000. An investigation by MPI is ongoing.

Provost Marshal's Tip of the Week

For winter, it's important to ensure your vehicle's battery and charging system are in good operating condition. In cold weather, a battery's cranking power is reduced significantly.

At the same time, the electrical power needed to start your car increases when the temperature plunges. Having quality jumper cables or a portable power pack in your trunk is a superb way to prepare for the worst.

Check to make sure your heater and defroster work. Finally, check your wipers.

You should allow your car to idle for a few seconds to make sure the lubrication is circulated throughout the engine, providing protection. It's not necessary to idle for a long time, as that simply wastes fuel and offers no more protection than a few seconds of idling will. Nonetheless, drive easily at first.

crimestoppers
1-888-559-TIPS
www.midlandscrimestoppers.com

FORCE PROTECTION

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Terrorist Operations

HIT and RUN



TERROR IN INDIA



DYNAMIC

SIMPLE



IMMEDIATE MEDIA IMPACT

HEALTH

Black History Month teaches lessons in fitness

COMMENTARY

Maj. Thomas Hundley
Moncrief Army Community Hospital

African Americans are a resilient people with a long and proud legacy. Throughout the historical events from the era of legalized slavery to the era of modern times, African Americans have prevailed as positive and productive citizens.

The wonderful thing about history is that we are left with documented and visible lessons. It is wise to learn and use those lessons to improve the course of our lives.

In honor of Black History Month, we will use a few Black History lessons to help preserve the future of our health and fitness.

March like Martin Luther King

Dr. King spearheaded arguably the largest fitness session in history. He led more than 250,000 people on a physical



Maj. Thomas Hundley

a different drum.

Dance like Muhammad Ali

“Float like a butterfly and sting like a bee, there’s no one greater than Muhammad Ali.”

Considered the greatest heavyweight boxer of all time, Ali gracefully boxed his way into the hearts of people around the world. His fitness level was attributed to his ability to build endurance through constant graceful movements. Let’s adopt that historical lesson by incorporating a dance class or aerobics class into our weekly

and emotional walk in our nation’s capital on Aug. 28, 1963. That single fitness session has led to many positive changes in America. Let’s adopt Dr. King’s marching philosophy and incorporate a daily walk into our schedule. It’s time to march to the beat of

schedule. A little dance today makes you a champion of good health.

Run like Jesse Owens

Olympic gold medalist and track star Jesse Owens was the epitome of fitness.

In 1936 at the Berlin Olympics, he ran and jumped his way into history by winning four gold medals. He single-handedly destroyed Hitler’s theory that African American athletes were inferior.

Let’s use Owens’ historic example to motivate us to run for better health. Start with a 10-minute weekly run and don’t stop until you have earned that gold medal of fitness.

Laugh like Bill Cosby

Comedian, actor, author and activist William Henry Cosby, Jr. has given the world a lot of humor. Whether providing laughs through those old Fat Albert cartoons or through the 1980’s defining sitcom The Cosby Show, Bill Cosby’s good-natured approach has led to extraordinary mental fitness.

We should learn to master the art of smiling and laughing. Not only is it contagious, but it leads to happier, more productive lives.

Refuse like Rosa Parks

This seamstress from Alabama will forever be known as the mother of the Civil Rights Movement.

Rosa Louise refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Ala. on Dec. 1, 1955. That single act of defiance began the movement that led to the end of legal segregation in America. We must also exhibit such defiance and resilience when it comes to our health and fitness. We must refuse to give up our goals, refuse to live unhealthy lives, and refuse to fall victim to obesity. By refusing to lose the battle of the bulge, one can force change to happen.

February is Black History Month. I encourage you to walk, dance, run, laugh, and refuse. Let’s apply the lessons and examples from the past and change the health and fitness of our future.

Happy birthday, Army Nurse Corps

Photo by Nichole Riley

1st Lt. Brittany Sunko, MEDDAC, checks vital signs for newly arrived in-patient Pvt. Jose Reyes, Company B, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, who is recovering from injuries. On Feb. 2, the Army recognizes nurses for the 108th Army Nurse Corps anniversary. Throughout its history, the Army Nurse Corps has earned the deep respect and gratitude of the American people because of its dedication to providing the best possible care to Soldiers and their families while serving our country in war and peace.



MACH updates

The pharmacy is now located on the ground floor and the TRICARE Service Center has moved to the 10th floor. Offices for the Exceptional Family Member Program have moved to the 10th floor of MACH.

The new Warriors in Transition Unit and Soldier and Family Assistance Center buildings are expected to be completed soon.

MACH is experiencing a shortage of the Shingles vaccine (Zostavax), and will likely not have any for three to four months. For more information, call 751-0376.

A new phone number has been established for patients to cancel appointments after duty hours. To cancel an appointment after duty hours, call 751-2904. During duty hours, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call 751-CARE (2273) to cancel an appointment.

Online Formulary

The MACH pharmacy has provided an online formulary, which can be viewed at <http://www.pharmacyonesource.com/fos/default.asp?L=69557&g=1>. This formulary can be printed and taken to the doctor to make sure that MACH carries a specific medication.

Medical Records

Medical records are the property of the U.S. government and must be turned in at the Medical Records Station upon enrolling at MACH. Call 751-2471 for a copy of records.

Pharmacy Refills

Refill prescriptions online at www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil/. Look for “Pharmacy Refills Online” on the right side of the Web page. The Post Exchange Refill Pharmacy is the only site to pick up refills called in or ordered online.

CHAPEL

Depending on God leads to wise decisions

Chaplain (Capt.) Jerry Johnson
2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment

When people face adversity, they are usually pulled in one of two directions. Some will blame God directly, or at least be angry with him.

These people decide to live as though God was irrelevant because they reason that a God of love would have prevented the situation.

Others will invariably run closer to him because they will recognize their absolute dependence.

Three principles are good reminders. First, there are some things that are unexplainable. Isaiah 55:8-9 proclaims, “‘For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are

your ways my ways,’ says the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.’” A man such as Job lost everything that he had and still was able to proclaim a blessing upon the Lord and refrain from sinning against him (Job 1:21-22).


Second, Paul asserts in Romans 8:28, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to his purpose.”

This verse is often unfortunately used as a cliché. The last part is very important. Those who have been called to a higher purpose by God accept the fact that the Lord

is molding and shaping, albeit sometimes through hardship.

Third, James 4:13-17 instructs us not to live presumptuously, teaching us that there is no guarantee for tomorrow, since life is like a vaporous gas that appears for a little while and vanishes away. In view of eternity, each day is a gift and must be lived to the fullest. This truth should inspire each of us to make the most of every opportunity to serve.

Making plans is not in itself wrong, but when one makes plans with “a firm reliance on the providence of God,” as does our Declaration of Independence, then one makes truly wise choices and decisions.

<div></div>	
<div>Protestant</div> <div><div>■ Sunday</div><div>8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel (Gospel)</div><div>7:45 a.m. Bayonet Chapel (Hispanic)</div><div>9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Magruder Chapel</div><div>9:30 a.m. Main Post Chapel</div><div>10:45 a.m. Post-wide Sunday School (Main Post Chapel)</div><div>11 a.m. Memorial Chapel</div><div>11 a.m. Chapel Next Bayonet Chapel</div><div>■ Wednesday</div><div>6 p.m., Prayer Service Daniel Circle Chapel</div><div>7 p.m. Gospel Mid-week Service Daniel Circle Chapel</div><div>PROTESTANT BIBLE STUDY</div><div>■ Monday</div><div>7 p.m. Women’s Bible Study (PWOC — Main</div></div>	<div>Post Chapel, Class 209)</div> <div>■ Wednesday</div> <div>7 p.m. Anderson Street Chapel</div> <div>7 p.m. Daniel Circle Chapel</div> <div>7 p.m. Gospel Congregation’s Youth (Daniel Circle Chapel)</div> <div>■ Thursday</div> <div>9:30 a.m.-noon Women’s Bible Study (PWOC, Main Post Chapel)</div> <div>6 p.m. Neighborhood CMF/OCF Bible Study (Call 790-4699)</div> <div>7 p.m. LDS Bible Study (Anderson Chapel)</div> <div>■ Saturday</div> <div>8 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Main Post Chapel, (every second Saturday of the month in Chapel Fellowship Hall))</div> <div>PROTESTANT YOUTH OF THE CHAPEL</div> <div>■ Saturday</div> <div>11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel (third Saturday)</div> <div>■ Wednesday</div> <div>6:30 p.m. Main Post Chapel</div> <div>Catholic</div> <div>■ Monday-Friday</div> <div>11:30 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)</div> <div>■ Sunday</div> <div>8 a.m. Mass (MG Robert B. Solomon Center)</div> <div>11 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)</div> <div>9:30 a.m. Mass (120th AG Battalion Chapel)</div>
<div>9:30 a.m. CCD (Education Center)</div> <div>9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School</div> <div>12:30 a.m. Catholic Youth Ministry</div> <div>■ Wednesday</div> <div>7 p.m. Rosary</div> <div>7:30 p.m. RCIA/Adult Inquiry</div>	
<div>Lutheran/Episcopalian</div> <div>■ Sunday</div> <div>8 a.m. Memorial Chapel</div>	
<div>Islamic</div> <div>■ Sunday</div> <div>8-10 a.m. Islamic Studies (Main Post Chapel)</div> <div>■ Friday</div> <div>12:30-1:45 p.m. Jumah Services (Main Post Chapel)</div>	
<div>Jewish</div> <div>■ Sunday</div> <div>9:30-10:30 a.m. Memorial Chapel</div> <div>10:30-11:30 a.m. Jewish Book Study (Post Conference Room)</div>	
<div>Church of Christ</div> <div>■ Sunday</div> <div>11:30 a.m. Solomon Center</div>	
	<div>Latter Day Saints</div> <div>■ Sunday</div> <div>11 a.m. Warrior Chapel at 120th AG Bn.</div> <div>7 p.m., Scripture Study Anderson Chapel</div> <div>Addresses, phone numbers</div> <div>Daniel Circle Chapel</div> <div>3359 Daniel Circle, Corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-4478</div> <div>Main Post Chapel</div> <div>4580 Strom Thurmond Blvd., corner of Scales Avenue, 751-6469</div> <div>Bayonet Chapel</div> <div>9476 Kemper St., 751-4542</div> <div>Family Life Chaplain</div> <div>4850 Strom Thurmond Blvd. (inside of Main Post Chapel), 751-5780</div> <div>Anderson Street Chapel</div> <div>2335 Anderson St., Corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-7032</div> <div>Education Center</div> <div>4581 Scales Ave.</div> <div>Magruder Chapel</div> <div>4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883</div> <div>120th Rec. Bn. Chapel</div> <div>1895 Washington St., 751-5086</div> <div>Memorial Chapel</div> <div>4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324</div> <div>Chaplain School</div> <div>10100 Lee Road, 751-8050</div>

Fort Jackson sports talk

Which team do you think will win the Super Bowl? Why?



John Ogawa
Retired DA Civilian

“I like the Pittsburgh Steelers, but I think the Cardinals are going to upset them. I like their quarterback better than the Steelers’.”



Kenyatta Hamlet
Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

“I think Arizona is going to pull it off. I think a veteran quarterback and an athletic receiver win championships, and the Cardinals have both.”



Patrick Wall
DA Civilian

“Pittsburgh (will win) because they have a stronger defense, plus they are more well rounded.”

Sarah Harper
Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation



“The Steelers are going to win because they’re the better team. I’m betting on them.”

Marine Staff Sgt. Michael Fallaw
Military Entrance Processing Station



“The Steelers win because their defense is outstanding and they have a couple of offensive weapons who create problems for Arizona’s defense.

Bernard Cofield
AAFES



“The Cardinals are more athletic than Pittsburgh. It’s going to be a good game. I think Arizona is going to pull it off. It’s going to be an upset.”

Sports Briefs

Swim Meet

A swim meet for active-duty personnel only is scheduled for Feb. 24. Participants must submit name, age and events to the Sports Office by 3 p.m., Feb. 18. For more information, call 751-3096.

Health Rocks

Health Rocks!, a health and fitness extravaganza for children in first through 12th grade, is set for 6:30-9

p.m., the second Friday of each month. Activities, games and a nutritional meal are provided. To attend, sign up at the Youth Center or call 751-6387 the week before the event.

2009 Fitness Challenge

The FMWR 2009 Fitness Challenge begins Sunday and runs through May 2. Challenges are available in three categories, fitness, weight loss and total lifestyle change. Participants must be

members of the aerobics program. For more information, call 751-5768.

Volunteer Coaches Needed

Volunteer coaches for youth sports are needed. Experience is desired, but not mandatory. Volunteers get the “coaches discount,” when their own children also play sports — 100 percent for the first child; 50 percent for each additional child. For more information or to volunteer, call 751-5040.

Basketball standings*

Monday/Wednesday League

2-13	4-0
Swampfoxes	3-1
4-321st	3-1
PES	2-2
SSI	1-2
187th	1-3
3-13	1-3
3-60	0-3

Tuesday/Thursday League

Niteflyte	4-0
That’s Them	3-0
SCNG	1-0
VSB	2-1
120th	2-2
2-60	2-2
DSS	2-3
165th	0-2
MEDDAC	0-3
JAG	0-3

* Standings as of Jan. 27.

Youth spring sports registration now open

Free Skills Sessions

Spring sports free skills sessions open to all Fort Jackson youth are: Soccer, 5-7 p.m., Feb. 10; track, 5-7 p.m., Feb. 26; and baseball, 5-7 p.m., April 14.

All sessions will take place at the Youth Sports Complex.

Registrations Open

Registration for Child, Youth and School Services is open to family members of active duty Soldiers, appropriated and nonappropriated funds civilians, contractor personnel and retired military.

Children must be registered with CYSS before signing up for sports. To register, call 751-4865/4824 to set up an appointment. The Central Enrollment Office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday.

Parents must take proof of a current physical and a copy

of the child’s birth certificate. The registration fee is waived as a result of the Army Family Covenant.

Soccer: February through May. Soccer is open for 3-10 year olds (as of Feb. 11) and 10-13 year olds (as of Aug. 1). Participants will be contacted the week of Feb. 9. The fee is \$30, but additional children from the same family cost \$27. The fee includes a jersey, shorts and trophy.

Track: March through May. Track is open for 9-14 year olds (as of Dec. 31). Participants will be contacted the week of March 2. The fee is \$40, but additional children from the same family cost \$36. The fee includes a jersey, shorts and trophy.

Baseball: April through June. T-ball is open for 3-5 year olds (as of May 5); coach pitch is open for 6-8 years old (as of May 5); and Little League is open for 9 years old and older (as of May 5). The fee is \$40, but additional children from the same family cost \$36. The fee includes a jersey, hat, pants and trophy.

Basketball Schedule

Today

- 6 p.m. Niteflyte vs. 2-60, Coleman Gym
- 7 p.m. MEDDAC vs. DSS, Coleman Gym
- 8 p.m. JAG vs. That’s Them, Coleman Gym

For the latest schedule updates, call the Sports Office at 751-3096.

LEGAL

SCRA changes affect cell phone contracts

Capt. Jeniffer G. H. Cox
Legal Assistance Attorney

In October 2008, the Congress revised legislation that provides protections to service members when they are deployed or permanent change stations to Continental United States and Outside Continental United States locations.

The Service members Civil Relief Act includes provisions to help Soldiers end residential and automobile leases sooner than stated in the contract, reduce their interest rates on certain types of debts, and to obtain stays for pending civil court matters.

The intent of the SCRA is that it provides a protective shield for the Soldier; not that it be used as a sword to get out of legitimate obligations. Therefore, nearly every section of the SCRA requires the Soldier to be proactive and request protection.

Congress' recent expansion covers the termination or suspension for cellular telephone services. The new protections apply to service members who receive orders to deploy OCONUS for 90 days or more and service members who receive PCS orders within the United States. If

the service member entered into a contract for cellular service before they got the orders, and the orders will materially affect their ability to fulfill the contract or use the service, the service member is entitled to relief by suspension or termination of the contract.

In order to get relief, the service member must request in writing that the contract be terminated or suspended; and the service member must provide a copy of the orders. Upon receipt of the request, the cellular telephone service contractor is required to grant the termination or suspension without imposing an early termination fee for the contract or a reactivation fee if the service is being suspended. Additionally, if the service member is being deployed OCONUS, the company must allow the service member to suspend the contract without charge or a requirement of extension of the contract.

Congress recognizes the sacrifices of service members for service to the nation, and took steps to protect them. In return, Congress intended for service members to take proactive steps to request the protection. Service members must determine whether they are entitled to protection, and if so, must request protection in a timely fashion

Operation Hours

Fort Jackson's Legal Assistance Office, located in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 9475 Kershaw Road, is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

For appointments, call 751-4287. The office accepts walk-ins for living wills, health care powers of attorney and durable powers of attorney, 1:30-4 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Walk-ins are welcome for general legal questions and are accepted 9-11 a.m., Thursdays.

and in the appropriate fashion. Legal Assistance attorneys are available to assist service members with their requests.

Editor's Note: *This article is intended for information purposes only and is not intended as legal advice. Our office has appointments available for Soldiers to discuss this and other aspects of the SCRA. Service members who want to make an appointment should call (803) 751-4287.*